SHADOW RAIDERS I

Episode 6
'MindWar'

ENGLISH DIALOGUE SCRIPT

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EDITED MONTAGE - END OF PREVIOUS EPISODE

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(1) Previously, on War Planets...

WIPE TO:

INT. FEMUR'S SHIP - THE CLAVICLE - BRIDGE

Femur watches Planet Ice recede on the view screen.

FEMUR
(2) Knew I couldn't trust rockhead and his posse any further than I could kick them!

Lamp/Tek enters. Pelvus gapes in surprise.

LAMP/TEK
(3) You can't begin to guess the extent of their treachery, Emperor Femur.

Femur grins lasciviously at her.

FEMUR
(4) Well, if it ain't the tin princess! How'd ya get on my ship?
(a beat)
Not that I'd exactly mind giving you a ride...if you catch my drift.

LAMP/TEK
(5) I understand you perfectly.

FEMUR
(6) Yeah, I bet you do. So what's the scoop on Graveheart and his homicidal squeeze?

LAMP/TEK
(7) He approached me in secret with a plan to betray you.

FEMUR
(8) That crummy commoner! I knew it!

LAMP/TEK

(9) When I refused to join him, he tried to kill me.
(softer, almost seductively)
So I sought safety at your side.

FEMUR
(pleased)
(10) Did you now...?

Femur's sudden smile is interrupted by Pelvus.

PELVUS
(11) Exalted Ruler of the Known Universe! Incoming message from Planet Ice. They say it's urgent!

FEMUR
(12) Oh, do they?

Lamp/Tek puts up a hand, as if to say, 'Be quiet.' Femur nods in agreement.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(13) Well, they can go chew chunks! Put the ship on radio silence, and don’t bother us.

Femur bares a toothy smile towards Lamp/Tek.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(14) Me an’ the machine queen here need us some quiet time to sort things out.

CUT TO:

INT. PLANET ICE - ICE PALACE - COUNCIL ROOM
Grim-faced, Graveheart looks up from the comm-board.

GRAVEHEART
(15) Mantel’s crown! They cut me off!
(a beat)
Femur’s in trouble.

CRYOS looks up from a table where he and PYRUS are attempting to repair the damaged Voxx.

CRYOS
(16) No doubt. I’ll ready the Aurora for pursuit.

JADE
(17) If we are lucky, they will kill each other before we can reach them.

PYRUS
(18) You’re kidding, right? We’ve got to help Femur!

GRAVEHEART
(19) And rescue Tekla. She’s the key to winning this war.

CRYOS
(20) Don’t underestimate your own importance in this struggle, my friend.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - CONTINUOUS

As Tekla/Lamprey stands by, watching, a furious Femur paces around, ranting at Pelvus.

FEMUR
(21) Those miserable, slime-squirting...! And, t’ think I almost trusted ‘em.

PUSH IN ON TEKLA/LAMPREY - a faint smile almost touches her lips as she speaks to Femur.

LAMP/TEK
(22) Which is more than they deserved. I guess this means their precious Alliance is broken.

As she speaks, PUSH IN TIGHT ON TEKLA’S EYES - to see the dark stuff of Lamprey swirling in there. Her voice CHANGES from Tekla’s to Lamprey’s.

PUSH IN THRU EYES TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE - VIRTUAL REALITY

A 'virtual’ Lamprey smiles with satisfaction. Lamprey’s eyes widen as she hears a voice OS.

TEKLA (OS)
(23) Not yet it isn’t!

Lamprey turns to see a 'virtual' Tekla, backlit dramatically.

TEKLA (cont’d)
(24) You’ve used me like a puppet, Lamprey.

Tekla concentrates, and a glowing barrier forms in the sky, blocking Lamprey's exit.

TEKLA (cont'd)
(25) Time to return the favor.

Beams of light spiral out of Tekla's eyes and enter Lamprey's forehead. a stream of data pulses up the beam to Tekla.

LAMPREY
(26)
(gasps)

TEKLA
(27) You've learned my secrets, now I will learn yours!

LAMPREY
(28) Never!

Black energy snakes back from Lamprey, traveling down the bright spiral and breaking the mind probe.

TEKLA
(29)
(gasps)

LAMPREY
(30) So...it was you who's been holding me here. Guess I'll have to regain my freedom the hard way.

Storm clouds gather as Lamprey assumes a threatening crouch.

LAMPREY (CON'T)

(31) This should be...fun.

PULL BACK AND DISSOLVE out of Lamp/Tek's head to:

INT. CLAVICLE - FEMUR'S QUARTERS

We find Lamp/Tek and Femur in a very comfortable position. Pelvus pours wine and prepares to poison Femur's glass.

FEMUR
(32) Having fun, toots?

LAMP/TEK
(both voices at once)
(33) You have absolutely no idea --

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Lamprey leaps at Tekla, knocking her to the ground and rocking her head.

LAMPREY
(34) -- how much I'm enjoying this. I promise I'll suck the life out of you slowly.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - FEMUR'S QUARTERS

Femur smiles broadly at Lamp/Tek.

FEMUR
(35) Hey, no objections here, toots!

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Lamprey and Tekla roll on the ground. Lamprey throws a punch at Tekla.

TEKLA
(36) (grunt of impact)

CUT TO:

INT. - CLAVICLE - FEMUR'S QUARTERS

Lamp/Tek completes the punch, knocking Femur across the room.

FEMUR
(37) (grunt of impact)

Lamp/Tek shakes her head and regains her composure.

LAMP/TEK
(38) Too rough for you?

Femur picks himself up and rubs his jaw.

FEMUR
(39) Hey! I kind of like it that way, but let's not go crazy here!

Pelvus smiles and puts away his poison.

PELVUS
(to himself)

(40) I’m starting to appreciate this woman.

CUT TO:

INT. AURORA

Graveheart, Jade, Pyrus and Cryos pursue Femur’s ship.

JADE
(41) I have the reptile’s ship on sensors.

Cryos welds a laser projector into Voxx while Pyrus helps.

CRYOS
(42) And Voxx should be back on-line momentarily.

PYRUS
(43) And better than ever. We’ve given this little brainball some real firepower.

Graveheart seems disinterested with everything being said, as Cryos seals a panel.

CRYOS
(44) The damage Lamprey did was extensive, but I believe my repairs are --

Voxx launches off the table, rapidly turning on his axis.

VOXX
(45) Intruder!

Suddenly, Voxx fires his new laser beam past a startled Cryos, narrowly missing his head.

CRYOS
(46) -- complete?

VOXX
(47) Princess Tekla is not present.

PYRUS
(48) Exactly, Voxx. But we’re going to get her back.

JADE
(49) Dead or alive.

Graveheart rises his head and glances at Jade.

GRAVEHEART
(50) 'Dead' is not an option. Tekla is too --

The ship is suddenly rocked by an EXPLOSION.

GRAVEHEART (CONT'D)
(51) What was that?

CRYOS
(52) Femur has fired on us.

PYRUS
(53) No way! He wouldn't!

CRYOS
(54) Apparently, he would.

CUT TO:

EXT. - OUTER SPACE

Femur's ship fires another blast, which rocks the Aurora and sends it hurtling out of control, as we:

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

Femur fires another BLAST at the stricken Aurora.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - BRIDGE
Femur sits in a command chair. Lamp/Tek stands beside him. Pelvus crouches over the battle station.

FEMUR
(55) Here's just a taste of what you threw at me, you backstabbing iceberg!

Lamp/Tek's eyes glow with battle lust. She puts her arms seductively around Femur.

LAMP/TEK

(56) Well done, Femur. All my enemies will be destroyed in one neat package!

FEMUR
(57) Don't you mean all <u>our</u> enemies, doll?

LAMP/TEK
(58) Of course. Isn't that what I said?

Femur opens his mouth to reply, but is interrupted by Pelvus.

PELVUS
(59) Torpedoes away, your Royal Extravagance.

Lamp/Tek's arms tighten around Femur's neck.

LAMP/TEK
(60) Yesss. Hnnnn...

FEMUR (strangled voice)
(61) Hey! Ease up on the throttle there!

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Tekla's arms tighten around Lamprey's neck in the same position as Lamp/Tek's on Femur. She grimaces with effort.

TEKLA
(62) Hnnnn. Don't turn your back on me! Probing your mind is like fishing in a sewer, but let's see...

Tekla's mind-probe lances into Lamprey's forehead. Pulses of data travel down the beam into Tekla's head.

LAMPREY
(63) Unh!

TEKLA
(64) Incredible! This information could cripple the power of the Beast Planet.

LAMPREY
(65) That knowledge will perish with you!

Lamprey draws upon her inner evil and grows twice her size. Tekla hangs dangling, her hands still around Lamprey's neck.

CUT TO:

INT. AURORA - SIMULTANEOUS

Pyrus' face reflects the glow of his monitor.

PYRUS
(66) This is crazy. Femur's still shooting at us!

There is a HUM as the Aurora's lasers charge. Suddenly, a RED LIGHT on the console turns GREEN.

JADE
(67) Time to return the favor.

PYRUS
(68) You won't burn him away, will you?

Jade's finger stabs a button.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

Rayfire SIZZLES from the Aurora, hitting the incoming torpedoes and EXPLODING them.

JADE (VO)
(69) Not yet.

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

The enlarged Lamprey plucks Tekla from her neck and batters her mercilessly, each word punctuated with another blow.

LAMPREY
(70) Stupid. Cyborg. You. Dare. Defy. Me?

Tekla responds through clenched teeth.

TEKLA
(71) I would dare that and more to destroy you and your Master!

With visible effort, Tekla grows as she draws on hidden reserves of strength, matching Lamprey's stature.

TEKLA (cont'd)
(72) And if you--Hnnn--can't understand that, you will never win this war!

The two behemoths collide, as THUNDER ROARS in a violent sky.

LAMPREY
(73) Nooooo!

As the pair struggles, traces of Tekla's clean circuitry flicker through the dark clouds which dominate the mindscape's firmament. On their flailing brawl:

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - BRIDGE

Femur watches in amazement as Lamp/Tek staggers around the room, her arms flailing wildly.

LAMP/TEK
(74) Nooooo!

FEMUR
(75) Oh, swell! The babe's gone bonkers!

Pelvus acts as if to stop her, and manages (on purpose) to push her towards Femur.

PELVUS
(76) Allow me to assist, your Vastness!

Blank-eyed, Lamp/Tek starts pummeling Femur.

FEMUR
(77) Ow! Ow! Ow! Pelvus, you dope! Mind the weapons! Ow!

CUT TO:

INT. AURORA

Pyrus looks up from his monitor.

PYRUS
(78) They've stopped firing at us. Graveheart, what should we do?

GRAVEHEART
(hesitant)
(79) I...I'm not sure.

Cryos looks at Graveheart, then turns to the others, immediately taking command.

CRYOS

(80) Jade, take out their weapons and propulsion systems.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

Beams of force lance from the Aurora, disabling Femur's ship with pinpoint accuracy.

JADE (VO)
(81) Done.

CRYOS (VO)
(82) Prepare to board.

The Aurora docks with Femur's ship.

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Tekla holds the apparently beaten Lamprey at arm's length.

TEKLA
(83) You picked the wrong mind to defile, parasite.

LAMPREY
(84) Wrong. Until I'm destroyed, I still control this body.

TEKLA
(85) A problem I can easily resolve.

LAMPREY
(86) If you destroy me, we both die.

TEKLA
(87) Then so be it.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - BRIDGE

Femur uncovers his head as Lamp/Tek slowly snaps out of her trance. He rubs his jaw.

FEMUR
(88) You done hammering me? I think there's maybe a couple of teeth you ain't knocked loose yet.

PELVUS

(89) The loading bay bulkheads have been compromised, most Defeated Leader. Your former allies are coming aboard.

FEMUR
(90) Then seal the bridge.

PELVUS
Okey, dokey.

Large bolts pneumatically seal the heavy door.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(to Lamp/Tek)
(91) This is your fault, you nutso frail!
It's all over 'cept the shouting now.

LAMP/TEK
(92) Oh, this is far from over.

The sound of BLASTING grows louder. Femur produces a sidearm.

FEMUR
(93) You're kidding, right? Trust me, babe, the fat lizard has sung.

The bridge doors BLOW open. Our heroes enter, guns ready.

GRAVEHEART
(94) Give it up, Lamprey!

Femur looks up at Lamp/Tek.

FEMUR
(95) Lamprey?

Lamp/Tek grabs the gun from Femur and holds it to his head.

LAMP/TEK
(96) Let me be or the toad dies.

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Tekla shakes Lamprey by the shoulders, her eyes wild.

TEKLA
(97) What are you doing?

Lamprey smiles evilly.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - BRIDGE
Graveheart weighs his options and decides.

GRAVEHEART
(98) Do as she says...for now.

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Tekla looks up into the sky as she 'watches' the events outside.

TEKLA
(99) Graveheart, no! I'm not worth it!

Distracted for a moment, Tekla leaves herself open to a savage mind-blast from Lamprey.

TEKLA (cont'd)
(100) Unh!

Tekla collapses to the ground.

LAMPREY
(101) See? Now it's over.

Lamprey's LAUGHTER echoes in the storming mindscape, as we:

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CLAVICLE - BRIDGE

Lamp/Tek holds Femur hostage. There is a tense moment of showdown--

LAMP/TEK
(102) I said leave me --

-- Then, to Lamp/Tek's astonishment, her gunhand lurches away from Femur's head, and Jade FIRES, blowing the blaster out of her hand. The BLAST knocks Femur out of harm's way.

FEMUR
(103) Oof!

LAMP/TEK
(104) Unh!

Jade adjusts the setting on her gun. It HUMS with power.

JADE
(105) Time to die, Beast scum.

Graveheart knocks Jade's arm aside as she FIRES at Lamp/Tek.

GRAVEHEART
(106) Jade! No!

The BLAST cuts a molten swath in the wall next to Lamp/Tek.

JADE
(107) We destroy that body, we destroy Lamprey.

GRAVEHEART
(108) Maybe you can live with that, but I can't.

Jade grabs Lamp/Tek roughly and escorts her off the bridge.

JADE
(110) Put up a fight. Please.
LAMP/TEK
(109) Alliance fools! This gains you nothing.

Femur groggily rises, stunned from the low yield laser blast.

FEMUR
(111) That's the second time I've been suckered by Lamprey. I think I'm in love!

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - SICKBAY

Our heroes (along with Voxx and Pelvus) strap Lamp/Tek onto a diagnostic table and watch as an Auto-Doc probes her twitching body. Pyrus examines the machine with a grimace.

PYRUS
(112) Never seen an Auto-Doc equipped with so many poisons and counter-poisons before.

Femur enters on wobbly legs.

FEMUR
(113) That’s ‘cause you never know what might find its way into your dinner.

Pelvus smiles guiltily as Jade considers a large vial of poison thoughtfully

FEMUR (cont'd)
(114) So how’s our little Beastie in cyborg’s clothing doing?

VOXX
(115) Princess Tekla is undergoing extreme distress.

Like a scene from 'The Exorcist', we see multiple personalities flicker across Tekla’s face, alternately taunting and pleading.

LAMPREY’S VOICE
(116) Let me out! Let me go!

TEKLA’S VOICE
(117) No! I can’t unleash your evil on the universe again.

LAMPREY’S VOICE
(118) Suicidal fool! Would you really doom us both?

Lamp/Tek opens her eyes and looks into Graveheart’s.

TEKLA’S VOICE
(119) Graveheart! Destroy us...while you still can!

Tekla SCREAMS, then falls silent into a fevered trance.

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

The sky is boiling with jagged black clouds. Lamprey has grown to skyscraper height. A dark nimbus crowns her.

LAMPREY
(120) Oh, Tekla, would you really throw your life away like your pitiful father did?

TEKLA’S FATHER rises up like a colossus in front of Lamprey.

TEKLA
(121) Father!?

The BEAST PLANET appears, blotting out all light and hope.

LAMPREY
(122) You ran and left him to his doom.

The ground opens and swallows Tekla's father. In the sky, the Beast Planet consumes her world.

TEKLA
(123) I wanted to stay! Forgive me!

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - SICKBAY

Jade and Graveheart watch Tekla while Voxx hovers nearby.

LAMP/TEK
(124A) (Lamprey: evil, triumphant cackle
(124B) Tekla: gasps of fear and pain)

PYRUS
(125) Graveheart, what do we do? we've got to save her?

JADE
(126) She does not want to be saved.

CRYOS
(127) I, for one, am open to any options.

They all turn to Graveheart, standing across the room. He turns away from them, unable to face them. He has no ideas. Cryos crosses the room to join Graveheart, while the others remain around Tekla's body.

JADE
(128) I know a way to end this. Quick. Painless.

Jade presses a button on the Auto-Doc. The poison vial CLICKS into place. A needle hovers an inch from Tekla's arm.

PYRUS
(aghast)
(129) Poison? You'd kill Tekla?

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Lamprey, towering over the weakened Tekla, looks upward.

TEKLA
(130) Yes! Do it! It's a warrior's solution. I salute their courage.

LAMPREY
(131) Then we die for nothing! Even without my power, the Beast is still coming to destroy them all.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - SICKBAY

ON GRAVEHEART AND CRYOS - still standing away from the others.

CRYOS
(132) What troubles you, my friend? You've never seemed so...uncertain before.

GRAVEHEART
(133) I was deluding myself. I'm just a miner. This is all so far beyond me. If I make the wrong decision, people die.

CRYOS
(134) People will die whether you make a decision or not. It is the choosing that matters, not the choice.

Graveheart considers this for a beat, then his face takes on new resolve.

GRAVEHEART
(135) You're right. You all believed in me. Maybe it's time I started believing in myself.

CLOSE ON JADE - about to administer the needle. Suddenly, Graveheart's arm thrusts INTO SCENE and pushes the needle away.

GRAVEHEART
(136) No! Not on my watch.

Lamp/Tek's eyes follow the conversation.

GRAVEHEART
(137) Our strength is in the sum of our parts. So long as we hold every part precious, risk ourselves to maintain the whole, we can survive anything.

JADE
(a beat)
(138) So how does this help Tekla?

CUT TO:

INT. MINDSCAPE

Tekla listens as Graveheart's words pierce the thunderclouds.

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(139) I don't know. But together we will find some way to save her.

TEKLA
(140) Of course! Together...

Semblances of our heroes, conjured from Tekla's imagination, manifest in the mindscape. They link hands, and Tekla grows taller and brighter. Lamprey cringes, now on the defensive.

TEKLA
(141) Together we will overcome your evil!

The combined force of our heroes' wills generates a cleansing white light, melting away the corrupted landscape and revealing the pristine environment of Tekla's machine intellect. Lamprey is forced out with the storm.

TEKLA
(142) Together we will prevail!

LAMPREY
(143) Wh-what are you doing?

TEKLA
(144) You wanted out? Then go! Tell your Master it's time for <u>him</u> to be afraid.

CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - SICKBAY

Lamprey EXPLODES out of Tekla's body, knocking our heroes to the ground and allowing her to flee the scene.

LAMPREY
(145) NOOOOOOOOOO!

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

A lifeboat exits the Clavicle, bearing Lamprey to safety. The lifeboat approaches camera as we:

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CLAVICLE - SICKBAY

Tekla sits up as our heroes rise. Femur checks a monitor.

FEMUR
(146) Well, Lamprey's ditched the ship.

PYRUS
(147) Good riddance.

TEKLA
(148) Thank you all. I couldn't have beaten her without your support.

CRYOS
(149) You can thank Graveheart. He never gave up on you.

JADE
(150) Lamprey is still out there. You only beat her in your mind.

GRAVEHEART
(151) All battles are first won in the mind, Jade. The important thing is, our Alliance endures.

Jade manages a tight smile.

JADE
(sotto)
(152) So it does, my friend. So it does.

FADE OUT.

END EPISODE